International standard training facility for athletes

1427. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide an international standard training facility to athletes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a centre with such facilities in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (c) The Government of India, under its infrastructure schemes of (i) Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure (ii) Grant to Rural Schools for purchase of Sports Equipment and Development of Playground (100% grant) (iii) Promotion of Sports in Universities and Colleges (iv) Installation of Synthetic Playing Surfaces, provides, assistance to State/UT Governments, Institutions etc. for creation of sports infrastructure facilities and purchase of sports equipment on sharing basis.

"Sports" being a State subject, promotion of sports is the responsibility of the respective States. However, Sports Authority of India (SAI) has provided international standard training facilities in its centres at Bangalore, Delhi and Patiala. SAI, as **a** part of on-going process is also upgrading its training infrastructure facilities in its centres.

In addition, under the Government of India's Scheme related to Talent Search and Training, coaches, sports scientists and technical staff are sent abroad for advanced training and skill upgradation. Moreover, Government also assists engagement of reputed foreign coaches for imparting training in different disciplines.

Doping cases

1428. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the growing tendency of doping among Indian athletes, and

(b) how many cases have corns to light yet and what action has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) Since 2001,07 Indian sports-persons have tested positive for dope during International competitions and 196 sports-persons have been tested positive for dope at Dope Control Centre, Delhi.

National Sports Federations take appropriate action against sports-persons found guilty of doping. Government of India has also taken action against coaches in the light of dope results in respect of certain sports-persons coached by them.

Financial assistance for sports projects in Himachal Pradesh

†1429. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Himachal Pradesh have sent proposals to lay athletic tracks, erect indoor stadia and set up sports academies in the districts of Kangra, Bilaspur, Hamirpur and Una for approval and requested to grant financial assistance;

(b) if so, the dates of doing so; and

(c) the action taken by Government so far on the proposals of the Government of Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (c) No proposal for setting up of sports Academies has been received from Government of Himachal Pradesh. The details of proposals received from Government of Himachal Pradesh under the Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" for construction of various sports facilities including indoor stadia, athletic tracks, Inside Outdoor stadium etc. during 2001-02 to 2004-05 (as on 30.11.2004) and action taken thereon are placed in the enclosed Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.